RECEIVED **CENTRAL FAX CENTER**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

DEC 2 0 2004

Serial No.:

10/709,312

Conf. No.:

Filing Date: 04/28/2004

Art Unit:

2125

3311

Applicant:

Conrad et al

Examiner:

Shechtman

Docket No.: BUR920040098US1

Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR

OPTIMIZING MANUFACTURING PROCESSES USING REAL TIME PARTITIONED PROCESS

CAPABILITY ANALYSIS

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS

DESTINATION FACSIMILE NUMBER:

703-872-9306

Transmitted herewith is:

Amendment in 14 pages

in the above identified application.

- No additional fee is required. X
- The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge and credit Deposit Account No. 09-0456 (IBM) as described below.
 - Credit any overpayment.
 - Charge any additional fee required.

Michael F. Hoffman, Reg. No. 40,019

DATE: December 20, 2004

CERTIFICATION OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

> Darci L. DeLisle (Person transmitting this correspondence)

If you receive this correspondence in error or do not receive the entire transmission, please notify us at (518) 449-0044.

RECEIVED CENTRAL FAX CENTER

BUR920040098US1

DEC 2 0 2004

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Conrad et al.)	Examiner: Shechtman
Application No.: 10/709,312))	Art Unit: 3311
Filed: 04/28/2004))	
For: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR OPTIMIZING MANUFACTURING PROCESSES)	
USING REAL TIME PARTITIONED PROCESS CAPABILITY ANALYSIS)	
Mail Stop Amendment		
Commissioner for Patents		
P.O. Box 1450		
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450		

Sir:

Introductory Comments

This paper is being filed in response to the Office Action of September 20, 2004.

Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested in view of the remarks that follow.